

**CALIFORNIA RESEARCH BUREAU
CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY
Studies in the News**

California -- One Hundred Years Ago

April 1908 “Another side of California from that usually presented was extolled last night before a meeting of the Twilight Club of this city, when G.L. Spinning, the special commissioner of President Roosevelt told of conditions among the Indians of California... “There are 17,000 Indians in California and over 10,000 of them tonight have no place where they can comfortably lay their heads... Going back in the history of California, we find that fifty years ago there were nearly 210,000 Indians in Southern California and today there are but 17,500 Indians in the tribes of the State. Think of it. Two hundred and ninety thousand decrease in population in this glorious State of California in the memory of man. One of the most gruesome tragedies in the history of the world.” *Los Angeles Times* (April 1, 1908) pg. II10

1908: ‘By the combined efforts of the local Federal officials and the Indian agents, “boot-legging’ on the reservations in Southern California has been dealt a blow that will be felt for a long time... Besides cleaning out the gang of habitual offenders who live near the reservations in San Bernardino and Riverside counties, the government officers have turned their attention to Los Angeles saloon-keepers who have made a practice of selling liquor to Indians. The Federal statute which makes it a high misdemeanor to sell intoxicating liquor to an Indian, does not consider a plea of inadvertence any excuse. The bartender is supposed to know whether his customer is an Indian or not. If arrested he cannot urge in defense that he thought the Indian was a Mexican.” *Los Angeles Times* (October 18, 1908) pg. V21.

Contents This Week

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

[Effective policies for methamphetamine](#)
[Measuring identity theft](#)
[Improving prisoner reentry outcomes](#)
[One in 100 adults in prison](#)

CULTURE AND SOCIETY

[Problems measuring same-sex couples](#)
[The state of the news media](#)

ECONOMY

[California outlook worse than U.S.](#)

[UCLA forecasts no recession](#)
[Difficulty in becoming middle class](#)
[Manufacturing jobs lost at a stunning rate](#)
[California wine industry doing well](#)

EDUCATION

[Blueprint to help schools](#)
[Homeschooling setback](#)

EMPLOYMENT

[Court limits employment drug testing](#)
[Forgotten middle-skill employment](#)
[Middle-skill jobs in great demand](#)

ENERGY

[Green energy making big money](#)
[Carbon dioxide pipelines](#)
[Information technology driving energy productivity](#)

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

[Using information systems for community development](#)

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

[Court approves blanket primary](#)
[Union alleges too many IT contracts](#)
[Measuring government performance](#)
[Reforming California tax collection](#)
[Bilingual voting assistance](#)
[Demography and the changing electorate](#)

HEALTH

[Disaster plan for surge capacity](#)
[Local health departments not prepared](#)
[Lessons from California health insurance efforts](#)
[Lawsuit to stop Medicaid cuts](#)

HOUSING

[Troubling mortgage data](#)

HUMAN SERVICES

[Findings from fatherhood initiatives](#)
[Elderly homeless in Los Angeles](#)
[Survey of homeless youth](#)

TRANSPORTATION

[Court strikes passenger bill of rights](#)

Introduction to Studies in the News

Studies in the News is a current compilation of items significant to the Legislature and Governor's Office. It is created weekly by the State Library's [California Research Bureau](#) to supplement the public policy debate in California. To help share the latest information with state policymakers, these reading lists are now being made accessible through the State Library's website. This week's list of current articles in various public policy areas is presented below. Prior lists can be viewed from the California State Library's Web site at www.library.ca.gov/sitn

- When available, the URL for the full text of each item is provided.
- California State Employees may contact the State Information & Reference Center (916-654-0261; csinfo@library.ca.gov) with the SITN issue number and the item number [S#].
- All other interested individuals should contact their local library - the items may be available there, or may be borrowed by your local library on your behalf.

The following studies are currently on hand:

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

DRUGS

A Four-Pillars Approach to Methamphetamine: Policies for Effective Drug Prevention, Treatment, Policing and Harm Reduction. By Bill Piper, Drug Policy Alliance. (The Alliance, New York, New York) March 2008. 36 p.

Full text at:

<http://www.drugpolicy.org/docUploads/FourPillarsMethamphetamine.pdf>

["It has been more than 40 years since the first illegal methamphetamine laboratory was discovered in the United States. The national strategy for dealing with abuse of this powerful stimulant is the same now as it was then: incarcerate as many methamphetamine law violators as possible and hope for the best. This punitive strategy has devastated families and public health while failing to make America safer. There are clear steps, however, that can be taken to reduce methamphetamine abuse and protect public safety, and places like California; New Mexico; Utah; and Vancouver, Canada are leading the way. This report presents policymakers with a diverse range of evidence-based policy proposals that seek to save lives, reduce wasteful government spending, and empower communities."]

[Request #S08-16-1922]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

IDENTITY THEFT

Measuring Identity Theft at Top Banks (Version 1.0). By Chris Hoofnagle, Berkeley Center for Law and Technology, University of California, Berkeley. (The Center, Berkeley, California) February 26, 2008. 18 p.

Full text at:

<http://repositories.cdlib.org/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1045&context=bclt>

[“There is no reliable way for consumers, regulators, and businesses to assess the relative incidence of identity fraud at major financial institutions.... The Freedom of Information Act was used to obtain complaint data submitted by victims in 2006 to the Federal Trade Commission. This complaint data identifies the institution where impostors established fraudulent accounts or affected existing accounts in the name of the victim. The data show that some institutions have a far greater incidence of identity theft than others. The data further show that the major telecommunications companies had numerous identity theft events, but a metric is lacking to compare this industry with the financial institutions.”]
[Request #S08-16-1897]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

PRISONERS

How Physical, Mental, and Substance Abuse Conditions Shape the Process of Reintegration. By Kamala Mallik-Kane and Christy Visser, the Urban Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) February 26, 2008. 82 p.

Full text at:

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411617_health_prisoner_reentry.pdf

["More than 8 in 10 returning prisoners have chronic physical, mental, or substance abuse conditions. This research report demonstrates how each of these health conditions is associated with distinct reentry challenges and service needs. We assessed health status at release and gathered data on reintegration experiences through multiple postrelease interviews. We present typologies of reentry experiences by health status, detailing individuals' success finding housing and employment, reconnecting with family, abstaining from substance use and crime, and avoiding reincarceration. Using these typologies, we conclude with targeted strategies to improve service delivery and reentry outcomes."]
[Request #S08-16-1994]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

PRISONERS

One in 100: Behind Bars in America, 2008. By Jenifer Warren and others, Pew Center on the States. (The Center, Washington, DC) February 2008. 37 p.

Full text at:

<http://www.pewcenteronthestates.org/uploadedFiles/One%20in%20100.pdf>

["For the first time in the nation's history, more than one in 100 American adults are behind bars. Nationwide, the prison population grew by 25,000 last year, bringing it to almost 1.6 million, after three decades of growth that has seen the prison population nearly triple. Another 723,000 people are in local jails. The number of American adults is about 230 million, meaning that one in every 99.1 adults is behind bars. Incarceration rates are even higher for some groups. One in 36 adult Hispanic men is behind bars. One in 15 adult black men is, too, as is one in nine black men ages 20 to 34. The report also found that one in 355 white women ages 35 to 39 is behind bars, compared with one in 100 black women." New York Times (February 29, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-16-1873]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

CULTURE AND SOCIETY

GAYS & LESBIANS

The Measurement of Same-Sex Unmarried Partner Couples in the 2000 U.S. Census. By Dan Black, Syracuse University, and others. (California Center for Population Research, Los Angeles, California) 2007. 22 p.

Full text at:

<http://repositories.cdlib.org/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1303&context=ccpr>

["Over the past decades there has been a growing demand for accurate demographic statistics on same-sex couples, for the purpose of informing such policy debates as marriage equality, domestic partner benefits, and adoption rights for same-sex couples. Statistical agencies such as the U.S. Census Bureau are making an effort to collect consistent and accurate data on same-sex partners. In this paper we discuss procedures used by the Census Bureau in collecting and reporting data on same-sex unmarried partners in the 2000 Decennial Census, highlighting a serious measurement error problem. Our work serves as a cautionary tale for statistical agencies collecting data on same-sex couples, and as a guide for researchers who use existing data on same-sex couples."]

[Request #S08-16-2006]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

MEDIA

The State of the News Media 2008. By the Project for Excellence in Journalism. (The Project, Washington, DC) March 2008.

["The Internet has profoundly changed journalism, but not necessarily in ways that were predicted even a few years ago. It was believed that the Net would democratize the media, offering many new voices, stories and perspectives. Yet the news agenda actually seems to be narrowing.... Take away Iraq, Iran and Pakistan, and news from all of the other countries in the world combined filled up less than 6 percent of the American news whole.... Journalists are, to a large degree, embracing the changes being thrust upon them. The newsroom is increasingly being seen as the most experimental place in the business... In another unexpected finding, citizen-created Web sites and blogs are actually far less welcoming to outside commentary than the so-called mainstream media." Reuters (March 17, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-16-1921]

Report. Various pagings.

<http://www.stateofthenewsmedia.org/2008/>

Executive Summary. 26 p.

<http://www.stateofthenewsmedia.org/2008/chapter%20pdfs/PEJ2008-Overview.pdf?cat=9&media=1>

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

ECONOMY

CALIFORNIA

California and Metro Forecast: 2008-2010: By the Business Forecasting Center, University of the Pacific. (The Center, Stockton, California) March 20, 2008. 78 p.

Full text at: <http://forecast.pacific.edu/cametroforecast/ca-metro-forecast-mar08.pdf>

["Whether or not the U.S. slips into recession, the short-run outlook for California is worse than the rest of the country. The primary cause is the deteriorating housing market which has hit harder and earlier in California, particularly in the interior parts of the state. Beyond housing, the state's employment mix is less concentrated in Health Services, a sector with continued strong employment growth, and is highly dependent on the sluggish Information sector. The state budget crunch will also negatively impact public sector employment as the year progresses. The first half of

2008 will be tough for the state, but the long-run outlook for the state's diverse and vibrant economy is still strong."]

[Request #S08-16-2023]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

CALIFORNIA

UCLA Anderson Forecast for the Nation and California: 1st Quarter 2008 – 4th Quarter 2010. By the UCLA Anderson Forecasting Project, Anderson Graduate School of Management. (The School, Los Angeles, California) March 2007. 109 p.

[“Brushing aside conventional wisdom, UCLA economists say California and the nation will survive the housing slump and job losses without plunging into recession -- although it will still be miserable for many Americans. Industrial production growth remains strong, and consumer spending on big-ticket items such as refrigerators is expected to keep climbing -- albeit by just 0.3% this year, from 5% at the end of 2007. UCLA predicts that GDP will dip by 0.4% in the second quarter of this year, but then rebound. Anderson expects GDP to be growing at 2.5% by the end of this year.” Los Angeles Times (March 11, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-16-1904]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

INCOME DISTRIBUTION

Movin’ On Up: Reforming America’s Social Contract to Provide a Bridge to the Middle Class. By Shawn Fremstad and others, Center for Economic and Policy Research. (The Center, Washington, DC) February 2008. 17 p.

Full text at: http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/btg_2008_02.pdf

["There are no more good jobs today (as a share of all jobs) than there were in 1979. This paucity of good jobs means that millions of American workers are 'missing the middle.' ... Few workers in the middle-class and above rely solely on wages to maintain their standard of living. Tax preferences underwrite the costs of private social benefits that promote the health and economic security of middle-class families, including employer-based health insurance and retirement plans. These benefits are structured in a way that effectively excludes many workers in low-paid jobs from receiving them. Instead of one system of benefits available to all workers, the United States has two: one for working class families supported by low-wage workers and another for middle- and upper-income families."]

[Request #S08-16-1870]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

Renewing U.S. Manufacturing: Promoting a High-Road Strategy. By Susan Helper, Economic Policy Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) February 13, 2008. 39 p.

Full text at: <http://www.sharedprosperity.org/bp212/bp212.pdf>

[Over the last decade, the United States lost manufacturing jobs at a stunning rate: 16% of its manufacturing jobs disappeared in just the three years between 2000 and 2003, with a further decline of almost 4% between then and now. This had been some of the best paying work in the country. The average manufacturing worker earns a weekly wage of \$725, 20% higher than the national average. This dramatic loss of high-paying manufacturing jobs is not inevitable. America can save many of these jobs with 'high-road' policies that harness the knowledge of all of a firm's stakeholders to create a highly productive, high-wage economy. The nation can accomplish this turnaround in ways that also help meet critical national goals, such as environmental sustainability."]

[Request #S08-16-1914]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

WINE INDUSTRY

"California Wine Industry Evolving to Compete in 21st Century." By Rachael Goodhue and others. IN: California Agriculture, vol. 62, no. 1 (2008) pp. 12 - 18

Full text at:

<http://repositories.cdlib.org/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=3190&context=anrcs/californiaagriculture>

["The California wine industry is growing and changing amidst a global revolution in grape growing, wine production, wine marketing and consumer tastes. California accounted for roughly 90% of the value of U.S. wine production in 2006. U.S. per capita wine consumption and the quality of wine consumed continue to rise. The largest California wineries have long accounted for most California wine shipments and continue to expand with respect to volume and number of labels. While small wineries sell most of their wine directly to end-users, many mid-sized wineries face challenges in an increasingly crowded marketplace."]

[Request #S08-16-1987]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

EDUCATION

EDUCATIONAL REFORM

Students First: Renewing Hope for California's Future. By the Governor's Committee on Education Excellence. (The Committee, Sacramento, California) November 2007.

["Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's blue-ribbon committee on education released a list of sweeping recommendations to overhaul California's public school system at an additional annual cost of \$10.5 billion. The report contains controversial proposals such as merit-based pay for teachers, giving local school districts more control of their finances and preventing most 4-year-olds from starting kindergarten. ... Among the proposals expected to draw attention is one to begin developing a plan for universal preschool, starting by expanding subsidized programs for low-income families. The committee also recommends giving incentive grants to school districts to create full-day kindergarten classes." San Francisco Chronicle (March 15, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-16-1912]

Report. 44 p

http://californiaschoolfinance.org/portals/0/PDFs/GCEE/GCEE_Report_2008.pdf

Technical Report. 278 p.

http://californiaschoolfinance.org/portals/0/PDFs/GCEE/GCEE_TechReport_2008.pdf

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HOME SCHOOLING

In re Rachel L, et al. California Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District. B192878. February 28, 2008. 18 p.

Full text at: <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/opinions/documents/B192878.PDF>

["A court ruling clamping down on homeschooling by parents without teaching credentials sent shock waves across the state, leaving an estimated 166,000 children as possible truants and their parents at risk of prosecution. The court ruled that California law requires parents to send their children to full-time public or private schools or have them taught by credentialed tutors at home. Some homeschoolers are affiliated with private or charter schools but others fly under the radar completely. The court said state law has been clear since at least 1953, when another appellate court rejected a challenge by homeschooling parents to California's compulsory education statutes." San Francisco Chronicle (March 7, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-16-1888]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

EMPLOYMENT

DRUG TESTING

Janet Lynn Lanier v. City of Woodburn. U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit. 06-35262. March 13, 2008. 9 p.

Full text at:

[http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/ca9/newopinions.nsf/5E2248D8908215C98825740B000347DE/\\$file/0635262.pdf?openelement](http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/ca9/newopinions.nsf/5E2248D8908215C98825740B000347DE/$file/0635262.pdf?openelement)

["A city can't require all job applicants to be tested for narcotics and must instead show why drug use in a particular job would be dangerous. The court said the city may be able to justify drug-testing of applicants for some jobs. But the court found no basis to test applicants for library positions.... The court said Woodburn's rationale for universal screening -- that drug use is a serious social problem affecting the performance of any job -- was rejected by the Supreme Court in 1997 when it struck down Georgia's requirement that all candidates for public office undergo narcotics testing to show their commitment to the war on drugs." San Francisco Chronicle (March 14, 2008) 1.]
[Request #S08-16-2004]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

JOB TRAINING

America's Forgotten Middle-Skill Jobs: Education and Training Requirements in the Next Decade and Beyond. By Harry Holzer and Robert I. Lerman, the Urban Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) November 2007. 32 p.

Full text at: http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411633_forgottenjobs.pdf

["This paper analyzes the likely future demand for workers in 'middle-skill' jobs -- i.e., those requiring more than secondary school but less than a bachelor's degree. Contrary to recent assertions that demand for middle-skill jobs will shrink dramatically (creating an 'hourglass' or 'dumbbell' labor market), we find that demand for such jobs will remain quite robust. The growth in supply of workers with these skills will also likely shrink as 'Baby Boomers' retire and are replaced by immigrants. Thus, education and training programs that help less-educated workers gain these skills remain a worthwhile investment."]
[Request #S08-16-2001]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

JOB TRAINING

“Caught in the Middle: Demand for ‘Middle Skills’ Jobs Presents Opening for Technical Colleges.” By Paul Bradley. IN: Community College Week (February 25, 2008) p. 6.

["About 45 percent of all jobs created over the next several years will be ‘middle skills’ occupations – jobs like electronics technicians, medical assistants and nursing aides, hotel managers, welders, pipe fitters and air conditioning mechanics. Federal officials project that the number of health-care jobs demanding less than a baccalaureate degree will rise by up to 1.5 million by 2014. Employment in skilled construction crafts requiring both classroom training and on-the-job experience will grow by 15 percent by 2014 and provide the economy with 4.6 million jobs.... Yet many technical colleges feel underappreciated and unloved. "]
[Request #S08-16-1890]

Article:

<http://www.ccweek.com/news/templates/template.aspx?articleid=282&zoneid=7>

Jobs of the Future:

<http://www.ccweek.com/news/articlefiles/283-Jobs-of-Future.pdf>

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

ENERGY

ALTERNATIVE FUELS

Clean Energy Trends 2008. By Joel Makower, Clean Edge, Inc. and others. (Clean Edge, San Francisco, California) March 2008. 22 p.

Full text at: <http://www.cleandedge.com/reports/pdf/Trends2008.pdf>

["The alternative energy business is starting to make real money. Worldwide sales for companies specializing in biofuels, wind farms, solar panels and fuel cells grew 40 percent in 2007 to reach \$77.3 billion. Revenue in the wind power industry alone jumped 68 percent in 2007 to reach \$30.1 billion as new wind farms sprouted across the United States and China. Sales of ethanol and biodiesel, together, grew about 24 percent to hit \$25.4 billion. Solar photovoltaic sales grew 30 percent, totaling \$20.3 billion. As imposing as those figures might seem, they're small by the standards of the traditional energy business. But for green tech, the increasing revenues suggest that the young industry is gaining traction." San Francisco Chronicle (March 12, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-16-1902]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

CARBON SEQUESTRATION

Pipelines for Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) Control: Network Needs and Cost Uncertainties. By Paul W. Parfomak and Peter Folger, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. (The Service, Washington DC) January 10, 2008. 16 p.

Full text at: http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL34316_20080110.pdf

["Congress is considering policies promoting the capture and sequestration of carbon dioxide from sources such as electric power plants. Carbon capture and sequestration is a process involving a CO₂ source facility, a long-term CO₂ sequestration site, and CO₂ pipelines...Different assumptions about sequestration site viability can lead to a 20-fold difference in CO₂ pipeline lengths, and, therefore, similarly large differences in capital costs."]

[Request #S08-16-1756]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Information and Communication Technologies: The Power of Productivity: How ICT Sectors Are Transforming the Economy While Driving Gains in Energy Productivity. By John A. "Skip" Laitner and Karen Ehrhardt-Martinez, American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy. (The Council, Washington, DC) February 2008.

["The innovative effects of information and communications technologies (ICT) have contributed to the economy-wide reduction of U.S. energy intensity and the recent stabilization of overall levels of energy consumption. Huge cost reductions and important new ICT innovations have worked together to drive the expansion and diffusion of new information and communications technologies without increasing overall energy consumption in the U.S. economy.... The assessment indicates that for every extra kilowatt-hour of electricity demanded by ICT, the U.S. economy increased its overall energy savings by a factor of about 10."]

[Request #S08-16-1743]

Executive Summary. 1 p.

<http://aceee.org/pubs/e081.htm>

Report. 43 p.

<http://aceee.org/pubs/e081.pdf?CFID=301223&CFTOKEN=80926155>

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

LAND USE

Transforming Community Development with Land Information Systems. By Sarah Treuhaft, PolicyLink, and G. Thomas Kingsley, the Urban Institute. (Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, Cambridge, Massachusetts) March 2008. 52 p.

Full text at:

http://www.lincolninst.edu/pubs/dl/1356_676_Final%20Land%20Info%20PFR%203.08.pdf

["Geographic information systems and Web services have dramatically expanded the ability to access, analyze, disseminate, and display vast quantities of data.... Community organizations that gather and analyze data, together with the national networks that support them, also play a crucial role in the democratization of data -- serving as bridge-builders for technology, government, and the community. With this extensive information infrastructure in place, community development practitioners now have greater access to the detailed property data that are so vital for analyzing and monitoring changes in neighborhood real estate markets."] [Request #S08-16-1995]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

ELECTIONS

Washington State Grange v. Washington State Republican Party. U.S. Supreme Court. 06-713. March 18, 2008. Various pagings.

Full text at: <http://www.supremecourtus.gov/opinions/07pdf/06-713.pdf>

["The court gave California a road map to fundamental political reform by approving Washington state's new version of the blanket primary election. Eight years ago, the court threw out California's experimental blanket primary system that allowed voters to cross party lines in choosing nominees for state office.... Four years later, however, Washington voters reinstated the open primary concept in a slightly different form. The previous system placed all candidates on one ballot -- hence the term 'blanket' -- with the top vote-getter from each party advancing to the general election. The substitute advances the top two vote-getters to the general election, regardless of party affiliation -- which could mean that two candidates from the same party would face each other." Sacramento Bee (March 19, 2008) A3.]

[Request #S08-16-1983]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

IT Contracts: Too Many, Too Costly, Too Little Oversight. By the Service Employee's International Union, Local 1000. (The Union, Sacramento, California) March 2008. 24 p.

Full text at: http://seiu1000.org/Admin/Assets/AssetContent/56c29e54-7567-49b2-8681-f686122a4f66/546bfa9e-94e2-495f-9d30-54cc81f55e47/1b7fb02b-3c31-4f12-b4fe-d26d4181c81a/1/IT_Contracts_L1000_Report.pdf

["The number of information technology contracts awarded by the state of California has tripled since 2003, and the state could save up to \$100 million annually by reducing its reliance on contractors, according to a new union study. The report is based on information provided by the Department of General Services.... The total value of personal service contracts has jumped from \$28 million to \$340 million in the first eight months of the current fiscal year. Meanwhile, the value of consultant contracts increased from \$40 million to \$120 million.... But critics in the Legislature contend the state is largely incapable of performing tasks that involve circumstances, such as technology, that change constantly." Sacramento Bee (March 12, 2008) A3.]

[Request #S08-16-1997]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Grading the States 2008: The Mandate to Measure. By Katherine Barrett and Richard Greene. IN: Governing, (March 2008) pp. 24-95.

Full text at:
http://www.pewtrusts.org/uploadedFiles/wwwpewtrustsorg/Reports/Government_Performance/Grading-the-States-2008.pdf

["The report explores each state government's performance in serving the public. The report evaluates states in areas such as recruiting and retaining highly qualified, productive public employees; using information and technology to measure performance and communicate more effectively with the public; managing fiscal resources from budgeting to procurement; and planning for, maintaining, and improving roads, bridges, and buildings."]

[Request #S08-16-1876]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

TAX REFORM

California Tax Collection: Time for Reform. By Daniel L. Simmons. IN: Santa Clara Law Review, vol. 48, no. 2 (2008) pp. 279 - 352.

["This article explores the historic evolution of the California tax collection system in the context of numerous legislative studies and governmental commission reports recommending restructuring California tax administration to eliminate or consolidate the State Board of Equalization and create an independent board of tax appeals. California's tax collection system is duplicative, a financial waste, a diffusion of activities and responsibilities, and as a hodgepodge of boards, and elective and appointed officials, not truly responsive to the Governor, the legislature, or the people.... The absence of reliable interpretative guidance to the application of California's tax law is disruptive to business investment in the state and calls for reform.]

[Request #S08-16-2029]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

VOTERS & VOTING

Bilingual Voting Assistance: Selected Jurisdictions' Strategies for Identifying Needs and Providing Assistance. By the U.S. Government Accountability Office. GAO-08-182. (The Office, Washington, DC) January 18, 2008. 86 p.

Full text at: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d08182.pdf>

["GAO identified little quantitative data measuring the usefulness of various types of bilingual voting assistance. Election officials and community-based organization representatives noted that certain forms of assistance, such as having bilingual poll workers, were more useful than others. Some jurisdictions stated that modifications, including outreach to language minority groups, would improve the usefulness of bilingual assistance. While none of the 14 jurisdictions had attempted to formally evaluate their assistance, most reported gathering information about the usefulness of certain aspects of the assistance."]

[Request #S08-16-1707]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

Race, Immigration and America's Changing Electorate. By William H. Frey, the Brookings Institution. (The Institution, Washington, DC) February 28, 2008. 31 p.

Full text at:

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2008/0227_demographics_frey/0227_demographics_paper_frey.pdf

[“One of the most profound changes in America’s demography this century will be its shifting race and ethnic makeup. The rise of immigration from Latin America and Asia, the higher fertility of some minorities and the slow growth of America’s aging white population will have profound impacts on the nation’s demographic profile, with important implications for the electorate. These shifts are only the tip of the iceberg of what can be expected in future election cycles as Hispanic, Asian, and Black Americans make up ever larger shares of the electorate. This report discusses the shifts playing out in 2008, but with an eye toward what they will mean in the future.” Brookings Institution press release (February 28, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-16-1887]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HEALTH

EMERGENCY CARE

Standards and Guidelines for Healthcare Surge During Emergencies. By the California Department of Public Health. (The Department, Sacramento, California) February 18, 2008. Various pagings.

[“The new ‘surge capacity guidelines’ depict a post-disaster health care environment that looks and feels nothing like the system most Californians depend on. The document lays the practical -- and ethical -- groundwork for local and county health departments, hospitals, emergency responders and any able-bodied health care worker likely to be called upon in a catastrophe. Health care officials acknowledge that when and if a global pandemic or major disaster strikes, no amount of extra drugs or supplies will be sufficient to manage the impact on an already strained health care system. That's why the state assembled public health professionals, hospitals, ethicists, nurses and others to hash out guidelines for procedures they hope will minimize red tape and maximize survival rates.” Sacramento Bee (March 2, 2008) A1.]

[Request #S08-16-1901]

Standards and Guidelines:

<http://bepreparedcalifornia.ca.gov/EPO/CDPHPrograms/PublicHealthPrograms/EmergencyPreparednessOffice/EPOProgramsServices/Surge/SurgeStandardsGuidelines/SurgeStandardsGuidelines.htm>

Surge Project Background:

<http://bepreparedcalifornia.ca.gov/EPO/CDPHPrograms/PublicHealthPrograms/EmergencyPreparednessOffice/EPOProgramsServices/Surge/SurgeProjectBackground/SurgeProjectBackground.htm>

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

EMERGENCY CARE

Emergency Preparedness in California's Local Health Departments. By the Health Officer's Association of California. Prepared for the California Department of Health Services. (The Department, Sacramento, California) 2007. 273 p.

Full text at: http://www.library.ca.gov/SITNdocs/08Q1/HOAC_Report.pdf

[“A study of California's ability to respond to bioterrorism or a major natural disease outbreak has concluded that local health departments are ‘partially prepared,’ but gaps remain because of staffing shortages and aging infrastructure. Since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the 58 county and three city public health departments that constitute the state's front lines against bioterrorism and communicable diseases have come a ‘long way.’ But despite 428 newly created positions for emergency preparedness, local health departments ‘have a thin line of public health staff to fulfill their missions.’” Sacramento Bee (December 7, 2007) A3.]
[Request #S08-16-1627]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HEALTH INSURANCE

Financing Health Insurance Coverage: California's Revenue Structure and Options. By Tracy M. Gordon, University of Maryland, and Kim S. Rueben, the Urban Institute. February 2008. AND: Lessons from California's Health Reform Efforts for the National Debate. By Peter Harbage and others, the New America Foundation. March 2008. (The Foundation, Sacramento, California)

["California's health care reform effort may have been one of the first casualties of the national economic downturn. Yet the conditions that gave rise to the initiative did not disappear when the plan failed, and other states are pushing ahead with proposals to expand health coverage. So it remains useful to reflect on the California experience. In particular, it will be helpful to understand the proposed funding sources, how they would have interacted with California's revenue system, and what alternative funding streams might have withstood the politics of reform. We analyze the options for financing expanded health insurance coverage in California and offer our

own preferred solution in light of the state's fiscal and political constraints."]

[Request #S08-16-1993]

Financing Health Insurance. 10 p.

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/1001149_california_revenue.pdf

Lessons from California. 14 p.

[http://www.newamerica.net/files/Lessons From California's Health Reform Efforts For the National Debate.pdf](http://www.newamerica.net/files/Lessons_From_California's_Health_Reform_Efforts_For_the_National_Debate.pdf)

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

MEDICAID

Alameda County Medical Center, et al. vs. Michael Leavitt, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. U.S. District Court, District of Columbia. 08-cv-00422. Complaint. March 11, 2008. 29 p.

Full text at: <http://www.aha.org/aha/advocacy/legal/080311-complaint-alameda-v-Leavitt.pdf>

[“A coalition representing public hospitals in the Bay Area and the rest of the nation filed a federal suit to stop the Bush administration from implementing a sweeping Medicaid regulation that would lead to \$5 billion in funding cuts to ‘safety net’ hospitals. The cuts are so significant, that the financial ramifications will permeate the nation's entire health care system. The new rule imposes limits on Medicaid funding. If it runs out, annual Medicaid cuts to California would amount to about \$600 million. California's public hospitals represent 6 percent of all hospitals in the state, yet they provide 50 percent of all the hospital care to uninsured people.” San Francisco Chronicle (March 12, 2008)1.]

[Request #S08-16-1903]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HOUSING

HOME OWNERSHIP

Memoranda re Loan Modifications, Forbearance Plans, and Foreclosures. By Preston DuFuchard, California Department of Corporations. (The Department, Sacramento, California) March 3, 2008. 4p.

Full text at: <http://www.corp.ca.gov/press/news/SPL/servicersurvey0308.pdf>

[“Efforts to get lenders engaged must increasingly be complemented by efforts to get borrowers engaged, and to keep them engaged in the

homeownership process. We are troubled by evidence that borrowers who are actively engaged in addressing credit card and auto loan obligations are not taking similar steps to address mortgage obligations. The State has engaged in outreach efforts that are showing promise in terms of getting borrowers to meet with housing counselors and lenders. As these efforts continue, we hope they show up more meaningfully, in updated data we will provide in the coming months. We will continue to push both lenders and borrowers to keep more people in homes and reduce pressure on foreclosures.”]

[Request #S08-16-1892]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HUMAN SERVICES

FATHERHOOD

Ten Key Findings from Responsible Fatherhood Initiatives. By Karin Martinson, the Urban Institute, and Demetra Smith Nightingale, Johns Hopkins University. (The Institute, Washington, DC) February 2008. 11 p.

Full text at: http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411623_fatherhood_initiatives.pdf

["Although child support enforcement efforts have increased dramatically in recent years, there is evidence that many low-income fathers cannot afford to meet their child support obligations without impoverishing themselves or their families. Instead, many fathers accumulate child support debts that may lead them to evade the child support system and see less of their children. To address these complex issues, states and localities have put programs in place that focus on developing services and options to help low-income fathers find more stable and better-paying jobs, pay child support consistently, and become more involved parents."]

[Request #S08-16-1906]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HOMELESS

Homeless Older Adults Strategic Plan. By Steve Renahan and others, Shelter Partnership, Inc. (The Partnership, Los Angeles, California) March 2008.

["Homeless adults 62 and older are among the fastest-growing and most vulnerable homeless populations in Los Angeles County -- and that while a host of programs serve homeless families and individuals, there are few programs specifically for the elderly.... At least a third, and perhaps as many as half, are considered chronically homeless. More than two-thirds of Los Angeles County's homeless older adults are male. 28% reported prior military service -- a number that is twice as high as the general homeless

population. 62% reported having a physical and/or mental disability. Almost two-thirds of adults living on the streets are receiving some income, either from Social Security or Supplemental Security Income." Los Angeles Times (March 20, 2008) 1.]
[Request #S08-16-2003]

Report. Various pagings
<http://www.shelterpartnership.org/HomelessOlderAdults.htm>

Executive Summary. 10 p.
<http://www.shelterpartnership.org/documents/1.ExecutiveSummary.pdf>

Press Release. 3 p.
<http://www.shelterpartnership.org/documents/ShelterPartnershipPRLOCALFINAL3.19.08.pdf>

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

YOUTH

Voices from the Street: A Survey of Homeless Youth by Their Peers. By Nell Bernstein and Lisa K. Foster, California Research Bureau, California State Library. CRB-08-004. (The Bureau, Sacramento, California) March 2008. 133 p.

Full text at: <http://www.library.ca.gov/crb/08/08-004.pdf>

["Homeless youth are a hidden population. To shed light on this group of vulnerable young people, CRB conducted a survey in which homeless and formerly homeless youth completed over 200 interviews with their homeless peers across the state. The youth interviewed describe their experiences -- how they became homeless, what life on the street is like, their interactions with police, their education and aspirations, their mental health experiences, how they go about getting help -- the services they need, and the changes they would like to see happen in policy or law. The majority come from the hardest-to-reach and least-studied homeless populations: youth who sleep on the streets or in cars, squat in abandoned buildings, or 'couch-surf.' Most left their families because of violence or abuse or were kicked out, and many are surviving on the streets in the neighborhoods in which they grew up."]

[Request #S08-16-1886]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

TRANSPORTATION

AIRLINES

Air Transport Association of America v. Andrew Cuomo, Attorney General of the State of New York. U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit. 07-5771. March 25, 2008.

["States can't require airlines to provide food, water and fresh air to passengers stuck on the ground during long delays, a court ruled in overturning a New York law that is similar to legislation pending in California.... The court said,. 'Only the federal government has the authority to enact such a law.'... The ruling is binding only on federal courts in New York, Vermont and Connecticut. It does not apply to California, where the state Assembly is considering a virtually identical measure.... The Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled in a separate case in 1998 [Charas v TWA] that the federal law covered only airline transportation services and left states free to regulate such amenities as in-flight beverages, baggage handling and personal assistance to passengers." San Francisco Chronicle (March 26, 2008) 1.]
[Request #S08-16-2022]

Air Transport v Cuomo. 16 p.

http://www.ca2.uscourts.gov:8080/isysnative/RDpcT3BpbnNcT1BOXDA3LTU3NzEtY3Zfb3BuLnBkZg==/07-5771-cv_opn.pdfxml=<http://www.ca2.uscourts.gov:8080/isysquery/irld0b/7/hilite>

Charas v TWA. Various pagings

<http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/ca9/newopinions.nsf/04485f8dcdbd4e1ea882569520074e698/e0db8381cbe2e14e88256e5a00718742?OpenDocument>

[\[Back to Top\]](#)